



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CAMPAIGN & POLITICAL FINANCE

ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, ROOM 1007
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108

(617) 727-8352

(800) 462-OCPF

MARY F. MCTIGUE
DIRECTOR

December 29, 1989
AO-89-30

Frederick M. Whitney
Chairman
Springfield Ward 5
Republican Committee
P.O. Box 4432
Springfield, MA 01101

Dear Mr. Whitney:

This letter is in response to your request for an advisory opinion.

You have stated that the Springfield Ward 5 Republican Committee (the "Committee") maintains a bank account, the low balance of which requires that the Committee pay a monthly charge. You have inquired if it is possible for the Committee to deposit its funds in the account of the Springfield Republican City Committee (the "City Committee"), thereby saving approximately \$12.00 per year in monthly charges for the Committee as well as decreasing the City Committee's charges. The Committee would maintain a separate ledger sheet for the ward funds. The Committee would continue to file reports with this office.

Section 5 of M.G.L. c.55 states, in part, that "[e]ach treasurer of a political committee shall keep and preserve detailed accounts, vouchers and receipts as prescribed for a candidate by the provisions of section 2." Section 2 of M.G.L. c.55 provides that "[e]very [treasurer] shall keep detailed accounts of all contributions received by him, or by a person acting on his behalf, and of all expenditures made by him, or by a person acting on his behalf. Said accounts may be kept by an agent duly authorized thereto, but the [treasurer] shall be responsible for said accounts, which shall be kept separate and distinct from all other accounts . . ." (emphasis added).

It is therefore the opinion of this office that the Committee may not, as described above, commingle its funds with the funds of the City Committee in a single bank account.

This opinion has been rendered solely on the basis of the representations made in your letter and solely in the

Frederick M. Whitney
December 29, 1989
Page 2

context of M.G.L. c.55.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office should you have additional questions.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Mary F. McTigue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mary F. McTigue
Director

MFM/wp